ONTARIO FORESTRY COUNCIL

THIRD ANNUAL REPORT

for the year ending

30 September 1987

I N T R O D U C T I O N

The Ontario Forestry Council has now completed three years of operation having been established by Order-in-Council in October 1984 to recommend to the Minister of Natural Resources appropriate objectives, priorities and funding for forestry research in Ontario.

The Council is composed of senior industry, university, federal and provincial representatives. Its technical committee (Ontario Forestry Research Committee) of doers and users of research establishes the direction, priorities, execution and dissemination of forestry research with respect to the needs of forest management in Ontario.

The Ontario Forestry Council recognizes that an adequate knowledge base must be maintained, through research, to perpetuate an economic wood supply, while protecting and enhancing the values of associated resources. Where appropriate, research should foster the development of multiple-use management techniques, thereby permitting access to the broadest possible land base for all resource users.

Research in this context is systematic investigation carried out by means of experiment, survey or analysis to gain new scientific, technical, commercial, economic or social knowledge. It exhibits an appreciable element of novelty, the outcome is uncertain, results are often in the form of concepts, and rigorous standards of evidence and proof are imposed.

The Council also recognizes the necessity of development and application. Development draws on existing knowledge gained from research and practical experience to produce new or substantially improved materials, devices,

products, processes, systems or services. It is systematic work with experimentation as a dominant characteristic, but the purpose is to provide the client with "know-how" in contrast to the "know-why" of research. Application, which is generally the responsibility of the client, is the process of applying this know-why and know-how derived from research and development to achieve practical goals and targets. Involvement of research and development staff is usually essential to the efficient transfer of technology to the client.

The Council believes that development and application are best undertaken by those specifically responsible for forest management, in particular the Ministry of Natural Resources.

Research in Ontario to develop the knowledge base is undertaken by the government of Ontario, the government of Canada, the universities and industry. The major current funding sources are federal and provincial government agencies.

The Council will ensure that the utilization of research funds is coordinated and directed to addressing clearly identified opportunities of both a long and short term nature, with the economic benefits examined and with recognized priorities. Through its representatives, the Council will ensure that the priority research areas, recommended by its Committee and based on input from users, are pursued and that progress is monitored.

The Council considers that one of its responsibilities is to encourage greater communication and understanding not only between forestry research scientists but also between scientists and forest managers. It will do this by sponsorship of meetings, annual symposia and other mechanisms.

MEMBERSHIP

The Council consists of a chairman and nine members, three of whom are recommended by the Ontario Forest Industries Association, one each on the

advice of the Government of Canada, the Ontario Lumber Manufacturers' Association and the Universities of Guelph, Lakehead and Toronto; one member is nominated by the Minister; and the remaining two members are the Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Associate Deputy Ministry of Forestry, Department of Agriculture Canada. During 1986-87 these were:

Chairman

B.K. Koken

Members

Ontario Forest Industries Association

E.F. Boswell
C.J. Carter
J.E. Houghton

Ontario Lumber Manufacturers' Association

G. Malette, replaced by Y. Martel

Universities of Guelph, Lakehead and Toronto

R.G. Rosehart

Ministry of Natural Resources

K.A. Armson
M. Mogford

Federal Government

J.H. Cayford
J.C. Mercier

Mr. C.J. Carter acted as Vice-Chairman of the Council, and in that capacity was chairman of the Ontario Forestry Research Committee.

1986-1987 TOPICS

The Council held two regular meetings; an open meeting with the forestry community to present the mandate, goals and objectives of the Council; and sponsored a symposium on the role of nursery practice in forest renewal.

The focus of the Council's activity this year was on the coordination of forestry research through its technical subcommittee, the Ontario Forestry Research Committee. The decision to establish this committee was noted in last year's report.

ONTARIO FORESTRY RESEARCH COMMITTEE

The purpose and functions of the Ontario Forestry Research Committee (OFRC) are "to establish the direction, priorities, execution and dissemination of forestry research with respect to the needs of forest management in the Province of Ontario". Recommendations made by OFRC to the Council concerning courses of action, and agreed to by Council, would be coordinated and directed through the government research groups by the two respective deputy ministers.

The functions of OFRC embrace many of those included in three previous research committees, which were disbanded: the Canada-Ontario Joint Forestry Research Committee, the Great Lakes Forestry Centre Advisory Committee and the Ontario Tree Improvement and Forest Biomass Institute's Advisory Committee. The oldest of these was the Canada-Ontario Joint Forestry Research Committee established in 1968 to ensure the most efficient and effective use possible was made of the research resources available in provincial research group and the regional forestry research establishment of the federal government. Its objectives were largely achieved through the efforts of working groups in specific research topic

areas and by annual symposia for both research and management foresters.

Under the chairmanship of C.J. Carter, Vice-Chairman of the Council, the membership comprises representatives from forest industry, universities, the Ontario Tree Improvement Council and provincial and federal research:

Forest Industry

E.F. Boswell
M.R. Innes
H.J. Iverson
N. Stephenson

Faculty of Forestry, University of Toronto

J.R. Carrow

School of Forestry, Lakehead University

A.J. Kayll

Ontario Tree Improvement Council

J. Coles

Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources

D.P. Drysdale

Great Lakes Forestry Centre (Federal government)

C.R. Sullivan

Two meetings of OFRC were held and a discussion meeting with Council. Primary activity centred on work by six sub-committees involved in the

identification, through an assessment of forest management requirements, of: those areas where research and technology transfer are required; specific problems to which research should be directed and the research output required by forest managers; and the priority of research required. The six sub-committees addressed: tree improvement, genetics, seed and stock production; regeneration; tending; protection; resource allocation and use, forest inventory, growth and yield; and environmental impacts.

Based on a proposal by OFRC, the Council decided to hire an outside consultant to make recommendations on the most effective manner for the setting of research directions and priorities, for their implementation, and for effective transfer to the forest user.

SYMPOSIUM

The annual symposium, held previously under the auspices of the Canada-Ontario Joint Forestry Research Committee, was for the first time held under the auspices of the Council through the Ontario Forestry Research Committee. The symposium, held in Kirkland Lake in mid September, addressed requirements and constraints in the production of coniferous seedlings. The objective was to give both the forest manager and the nurseryman a better understanding of each other's problems and requirements, and to promote more effective dialogue between grower and end user. Just under 200 participants attended with over one third coming from the private sector.

Prepared by
D.C.F. Fayle, PhD, RPF
Secretary